



Biotech Daily

Thursday April 18, 2013

Daily news on ASX-listed biotechnology companies

- * **ASX, BIOTECH DOWN: GI DYNAMICS UP 8%, ANTISENSE DOWN 10%**
- * **CYCLOPHARM ULTRALUTE EXTENDS NUCLEAR IMAGING LIFE 50%**
- * **JAPAN METHODS OF USE PATENT FOR PRIMA'S CVAC**
- * **NOVOGEN SHARE PLAN FOR UP TO \$2.5m**
- * **CONSEGNA OPTION RIGHTS ISSUE TO RAISE \$382k**
- * **IOOF BELOW 5% IN MAYNE PHARMA**
- * **DENLIN, TISIA, HENDERSON, JK TAKE 19% OF NEURODISCOVERY**
- * **BIO-MELBOURNE BRIEFING ON MORE EFFICIENT DRUG DEVELOPMENT**

MARKET REPORT

The Australian stock market fell 1.6 percent on Thursday April 18, 2013 with the S&P ASX 200 down 80.2 points to 4,924.4 points.

Just three of the Biotech Daily Top 40 stocks were up, 23 fell, eight traded unchanged and six were untraded.

GI Dynamics was the best of the few, up five cents or 7.8 percent to 69 cents with 5,100 shares traded, followed by Benitec up 7.1 percent to 1.5 cents with 2.1 million shares traded and Clinuvel up 4.4 percent to \$2 with 7,000 shares traded.

Antisense led the falls, down 0.1 cents or 10 percent to 0.9 cents, with 3.1 million shares traded.

Mesoblast lost 9.2 percent; Pharmaxis and Universal Biosensors fell more than eight percent; Allied Health, Medical Developments and Neuren were down more than six percent; Acrux, Avita and Living Cell fell four percent or more; Cellmid, Nanosonics, Patrys, Reva and Viralytics were down more than three percent; Atcor, Genetic Technologies and Sirtex shed two percent or more; Alchemia, Anteo and Prima were down more than one percent; with Cochlear, CSL, QRX and Starpharma down by less than one percent.

CYCLOPHARM

Cyclopharm says its newly-developed technology, Ultralute, will extend the useful life of of Mollybdenum-99 generators for medical imaging by up to an additional 50 percent.

Cyclopharm managing director James McBrayer told Biotech Daily that the Ultralute system extracted the Technetium-99m isotope which was created in Mollybdenum generators and re-concentrated the radioactive Technetium-99m, "providing enhanced utilization of the Mollybdenum generators".

Cyclopharm said that Technetium-99m was the most common nuclear medicine radioisotope and was used in cardiac, bone, liver, brain, renal and lung imaging.

Cyclopharm director of science Prof Nabil Morcos said that by extending the useful life of Mollybdenum-99 generators, Ultralute could enable hospitals and health departments to dramatically improve their operating efficiencies and health outcomes for patients.

"Initial testing and prototype designs of the Ultralute technology have provided exceptional results," Prof Morcos said.

Mr McBrayer said that the company was moving Ultralute "toward the regulatory approval process while in parallel entering in discussions with potential commercial partners".

Cyclopharm said Technetium-99m (Tc-99m) was used in about 80 percent of all procedures performed in nuclear medicine, but the useful life of a Mollybdenum-99 (Mo-99) generator was dependent on the concentration of the Tc-99m harvested from it.

The company said that the harvested Tc-99m, known as the eluate, was directly related to the amount of Mo-99m remaining in the generator and as the Mo-99 decayed, it reached a point when the amount of Tc-99m eluted was so diluted that it became unusable.

Cyclopharm said that its lead product Technegas for lung imaging was produced from Tc99m, which in turn was produced from Mollybdenum generators and Mo-99m was produced from a limited number of nuclear reactors.

The company said that Technegas sales in previous years had been impacted by global shortages of Mo-99 when sources of the medical isotope had placed their reactors offline for extensive time periods to comply with maintenance and repairs.

Cyclopharm said that it initially focused its research and development expertise to minimize the impact to Technegas relating to possible Mo-99 shortages, but once developed, the Ultralute technology applications proven to be far more reaching.

"The principle of Cyclopharm's ... technology is to provide an on-line process to concentrate the Tc-99m extracted from a generator so that it can be used in preparing radiopharmaceuticals used in nuclear medicine diagnostic scans," Prof Morcos said.

Cyclopharm said that scientific abstracts had been accepted with the Korean, Japanese and North American Societies of Nuclear Medicine and Prof Marcos had been invited to present the technology at the North American Society of Nuclear Medicine in June 2013.

Cyclopharm was untraded at 14 cents.

PRIMA BIOMED

Prima says the Japanese Patent Office has granted a patent protecting methods used in the manufacture of its CVac for ovarian cancer.

Prima said that the claims in the patent, entitled 'Use of mannose receptor-bearing antigen presenting cells for the manufacture of medicament for eliciting cytotoxic T cell response to antigen' provided for the treatment of patients with dendritic cells that had been pulsed with mannan fusion protein conjugated to an antigen, including but not limited to mucin 1.

CVac is in phase II/III trials for ovarian cancer in the US and Europe and is preparing phase II trials for three further cancer types (BD: Feb 28, Mar 20, 2013).

Prima fell 0.1 cents or 1.1 percent to 8.7 cents with 1.1 million shares traded.

NOVOGEN

Novogen will offer a share plan at 17 cents a share to raise \$2.5 million, following the placement at 16.6 cents a share that raised \$2.5 million (BD: Apr 12, 2013).

The company said shareholders eligible at the share plan record date of April 16, 2013 would be able to apply for parcels of shares from \$1,000 to \$15,000.

Novogen said the offer would open on April 23 and close on May 14, 2013 and the funds were for the development of cancer drug candidate CS-6 and working capital.

Novogen was unchanged at 19.5 cents.

CONSEGNA GROUP

Consegna says it will raise \$381,600 through the issue of one option costing 0.4 cents for every three shares held.

Consegna said the options rights issue was fully underwritten by Peloton Capital and the funds would be used for working capital and to advance the commercialization of the Breatheassist technology.

The company said it was offering up to 95,400,000 options exercisable at six cents by April 30, 2017.

The record date for eligible shareholders is April 29, the offer opens on May 3 and closes on May 17, 2013.

In February, Consegna raised \$632,500 through a share purchase plan and placement at 0.4 cents a share, equivalent to two cents following the consolidation (BD: Feb 15, 2013).

Consegna fell 0.2 cents or 5.9 percent to 3.2 cents.

MAYNE PHARMA

IOOF Holdings has ceased its substantial shareholding in Mayne Pharma with the off market transfer of 6,874,538 shares.

In 2012, the Collins Street Melbourne-based company (formerly known as the Independent Order of Odd Fellows) filed an initial substantial shareholder notice saying it held 26,895,569 shares or 5.796 percent of Mayne Pharma (BD: Nov 16, 2012).

In that November notice, IOOF said that it acted as the investment manager for 6,874,538 shares held by Citigroup.

Biotech Daily believes those shares have been transferred to a different investment manager, by the shares' owner.

In the ceasing substantial notice IOOF said it sold 94,234 shares for \$43,300 or 45.95 cents a share, leaving it with 24,527,853 shares or 4.36 percent to Mayne Pharma.

Mayne Pharma fell one cent or 2.2 percent to 45 cents with 1.3 million shares traded.

NEURODISCOVERY

Following the Enigma Therapeutics acquisition, JK Nominees, Tisia Nominees for the Henderson Family and Denlin Nominees became substantial shareholders in Neurodiscovery.

The three initial substantial shareholder notices said that the Perth and Fremantle based companies each acquired 15,000,000 shares or 6.46 percent of Neurodiscovery.

The notice filed by Denlin director Tony Grist cited 14,500,000 shares but Neurodiscovery executive director David McAuliffe told Biotech Daily that each company acquired the same number and percentage of shares.

Neurodiscovery fell 0.2 cents or 5.4 percent to 3.5 cents.

BIO-MELBOURNE NETWORK

The Bio-Melbourne Network says its April 23, 2103 Bio-Briefing will look at alternatives ways to deliver drugs to patients more efficiently, effectively and at lower cost. Bio-Melbourne chief executive officer Michelle Gallagher said that the “burgeoning costs of discovery and development of new medicines together with higher regulatory hurdles and pressure on reimbursement dollars is resulting in many important diseases unaddressed by medicine developers”.

“An extremely successful clinical development strategy is one employed by Medicines for Malaria Venture, a global leader in the development and supply of effective, timely and low cost drugs,” Ms Gallagher said.

The Network said that Medicines for Malaria Venture chief executive officer Dr David Reddy would discuss how new drugs and technological tools could be developed, efficiently and quickly, through rigorous product and portfolio management using scientific, industry and government collaboration.

The Network said that Dr Reddy’s presentation would be followed by a panel discussion on alternative approaches to investment, development and paths to market for medicines, with panelists including Roche Australia managing director Dr Fred Nadjaran, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences Director and Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Dean Prof Bill Charman and Biota’s vice-president of business development Leigh Farrell and would be chaired by D3 director Prof Craig Rayner.

The Network said that the Bio-Briefing would be held at Deloitte, Level 10, 550 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Registration is from 3:30pm, for a presentation at 4pm followed by networking drinks.

For more information go to: <http://www.biomelbourne.org/events/view/268>.